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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 32, line 6, the word -- and -- has been inserted after the word "liquid;".

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims **11 and 20-31** are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a method for collecting particulates from a process area containing surfaces exposed to the particulates comprising the steps of generating and introducing as presently claimed, esp., the step of generating a fog from a captured liquid.

Claims **12-15** are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a method for collecting particulates from a process area containing surfaces exposed to the particulates comprising the steps of providing, subjecting and introducing as presently claimed, esp., the step of subjecting the capture liquid to ultrasonic waves to generate an aerosol.

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Claims **16-19** are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a method for collecting particulates from a process area containing surfaces exposed to the particulates comprising the steps of generating, introducing and venting as presently claimed, esp., the step of venting a portion of the aerosol from the process area as an exhaust stream.

Claims **32-35 and 37-44** are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a method for removing hazardous particles from a space enclosed by walls comprising the steps of supplying, subjecting and introducing as presently claimed, esp., the step of subjecting the liquid to ultrasonic waves to form an atomized liquid.

The prior art does not contain any language that teaches the above. Therefore, a person skilled in the art would not be motivated to adopt the above conditions, and a prima facie case of obviousness cannot be established.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edna Wong whose telephone number is (703) 308-

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3818.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kathryn Gorgos, can be reached on (703) 308-3328. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3599.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.


Kathryn Gorgos
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1700


EW
August 23, 1998



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

IM41/0824

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
08/706,217	08/30/96	033	WONG, E.	1741 08/24/98
First Named Applicant	BERG, ROBERT D.			

TITLE OF INVENTION METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENCAPSULATING PARTICULATES

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
1	29615/DAP/B4	588-002.000	I16 UTILITY	YES	\$660.00	11/24/98

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.

Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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